

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00922 081126Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DHA-02

/078 W

-----081143Z 113135 /14

O R 080845Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6208

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0922

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, US, UN, SF, WA

SUBJECT: CONTACT GROUP MEETS ON EVE OF TALKS WITH SAG

REFS: (A) USUN 1751, (B) STATE 129466

1. CONTACT GROUP MET YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 7 TO REVIEW PAPER ON SUBSTANTIVE PREPARATIONS FOR SECOND ROUND OF TALKS ON NAMIBIA AND TO DISCUSS TACTICS FOR OPENING MEETING WITH SAG THIS MORNING. GROUP AGREED TO GUIDELINES REPRESENTED BY THE PAPER (REFTEL A) AND TO AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY DEPARTMENT (REFTEL B) WITH MINOR MODIFICATIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 CAPE T 00922 081126Z

2. GROUP ALSO APPROVED DRAFT OPENING STATEMENT WE HAD PREPARED AND WHICH AMBASSADOR MCHENRY WILL DELIVER. IN ESSENCE, IT REFERS TO OUR PREVIOUS BASIC POSITION ON THE TALKS, SUMMARIZES REACTIONS OF THOSE WHOM THE FIVE GOVERNMENTS HAVE BRIEFED SINCE LAST MEETING WITH SAG IN CAPE TOWN, AND INVITES SAG TO BEGIN BY GIVING US ITS VIEWS ON

"CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY". TEXT FOLLOWS.

3. (1) "ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA, FRANCE, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND THE UNITED STATES, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR RECEIVING US AGAIN AT CAPE TOWN.

(2) "AS WAS THE CASE DURING OUR DISCUSSIONS OF APRIL 27-29, WE COME WITH A SERIOUSNESS OF PURPOSE AND A POSITIVE SPIRIT IN THE HOPE THAT OUR DISCUSSIONS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO AN EARLY INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION OF THE NAMIBIA QUESTION. WE BELIEVE THAT OBJECTIVE--WHICH WE HAVE AGREED IS A COMMON OBJECTIVE--WAS ADVANCED DURING OUR LAST DISCUSSIONS. HOWEVER, BOTH YOU AND WE RECOGNIZED AT THE TIME THAT MAJOR ISSUES REMAINED TO BE CLARIFIED AND THAT ON SOME OTHER ISSUES, NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED.

(3) "WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE RESULTS OF OUR PREVIOUS TALKS WITH VARIOUS NAMIBIAN POLITICAL GROUPS, INCLUDING SWAPO AND THE TURNHALLE PARTICIPANTS; VARIOUS AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS; AND WITH OTHER PARTIES WITH PARTICULAR INTEREST IN NAMIBIA, ESPECIALLY THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS SECRETARY-GENERAL. THEIR REACTIONS VARIED. IN GENERAL:

(4) "THEY WELCOMED YOUR SUPPORT FOR FREE ELECTIONS IN WHICH ALL NAMIBIANS WOULD PARTICIPATE IN ORDER TO ELECT A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO DECIDE UPON A CONSTITUTION FOR AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA;

(5) "THEY WELCOMED YOUR AGREEMENT TO UN INVOLVEMENT IN THE NAMIBIAN ELECTORAL PROCESS;
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CAPE T 00922 081126Z

(6) "THEY WELCOMED YOUR DECISION TO REFRAIN FROM OBTAINING PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL OF THE TURNHALLE PROPOSALS; HOWEVER, THEY WERE SUSPICIOUS ABOUT THE PROPOSED "CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY";

(7) "THEY EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON THE RELEASE OF NAMIBIAN POLITICAL PRISONERS AND NUMEROUS QUESTIONS WERE RAISED ABOUT SOUTH AFRICAN WITHDRAWAL;

(8) "THEY WERE ENCOURAGED THAT OUR DISCUSSIONS HAD RESULTED IN SOME PROGRESS AND ENCOURAGED US TO PURSUE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THE REMAINING OUTSTANDING ISSUES. WE BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF ENLISTING BROAD SUPPORT, PARTICULARLY OF THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE FRONT LINE STATES, FOR A SETTLEMENT ALONG THE LINES OF OUR LAST PRESENTATION.

(9) "OUR MANDATE FOR THE CURRENT TALKS REMAINS AS BEFORE. FIRST, WE BELIEVE THAT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 385 PROVIDES THE MOST ACCEPTABLE BASIS FOR A SETTLEMENT OF THE NAMIBIA QUESTION. IT IS A BALANCED

DOCUMENT WHICH, IF IMPLEMENTED, WILL LEAD TO A VALID ACT OF SELF-DETERMINATION ON THE PART OF NAMIBIA. SECOND, WE ARE NOT EMPOWERED TO NEGOTIATE A SPECIFIC AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH AFRICA. WHAT WE HOPE TO DO IS EXPLORE WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND WITH THE PRINCIPAL PARTIES CONCERNED POSSIBLE SOLUTION CONSISTENT WITH RESOLUTION 385 SO THAT THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA CAN DECIDE FREELY HOW THEY WISH TO GOVERN THEMSELVES.

(10) "WITH REGARD TO THE ISSUES OUTSTANDING FROM OUR LAST DISCUSSIONS, OUR POSITIONS WERE STATED IN THE WORKING PAPER OF APRIL 29. WE HAVE SOUGHT TO REITERATE THOSE POSITIONS AND TO PROVIDE A FOCUS FOR THESE DISCUSSIONS IN OUR AIDE MEMOIRE OF MAY 30. WE MADE CLEAR THAT IN ORDER TO FACILITATE OUR DISCUSSIONS, THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WOULD NEED TO PROVIDE US WITH DETAILED INFORMATION ON SOME OF THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES, PARTICULARLY WHAT IT HAD IN MIND WITH REGARD TO WHAT HAS BEEN REFERRED TO AS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 CAPE T 00922 081126Z

A "CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY".

(11) "WE BELIEVE THAT OUR DISCUSSIONS MIGHT BEST PROCEED IF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WILL BEGIN BY SHARING WITH US ITS VIEWS ON THE "CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY". WE MIGHT THEN PROCEED TO DISCUSS:
THE RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS;
THE NATURE OF UN INVOLVEMENT;
THE REPEAL OF DISCRIMINATORY LAWS AND REGULATIONS;
SOUTH AFRICA'S PHASED WITHDRAWAL FROM NAMIBIA WHICH
WOULD BE COMPLETED BY THE DATE OF INDEPENDENCE;
VENUR AND TIMING OF FURTHER TALKS."BOWDLER

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Sent Date: 08-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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